









## Ministry of Information studies plans to revamp role, structure

By Ghadeer Taher  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In line with the changes in the political climate in Jordan, the Ministry of Information, which is the main guiding light for information dissemination in the Kingdom, is considering plans to revamp itself and modify its role, according to Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin.

"So far this is a very internal study but we are debating ways to change the nature of the ministry but it is not going to be abolished as some reports suggested," Izzeddin told the Jordan Times Saturday.

Some of the ideas which are under consideration include ways to give the government-controlled Jordan television and radio more autonomy and make the official news agency, Petra, more independent, according to the minister.

"Television is already autonomous but we are thinking of changing it from a government to a national station," he said. But he could not give details on exactly how that would translate in practical terms since the study "is very much in its preliminary stages."

According to a report carried by Radio Monte Carlo, the ministry is considering a plan to separate itself from radio and television, which will be directly administered and operated by a board of directors. The radio said the proposed changes were expected to be brought into effect with

what it described as "an expected reshuffle" of the government.

The minister expressed hope that Petra, the only source of official information until now, would become "similar to an international news agency," which would report on events as it sees fit, in order to transform Petra into "a more professional organisation," the minister intends to consult the three local dailies for advice and proposals, Izzeddin said.

The minister confirmed that suggestions had been made that Petra be turned into a shareholding company but said: "This is very premature at this point." He declined from giving a specified time-frame for the expected changes.

Petra usually reports government decisions, official meetings and issues handed on government level in terse statements without elaboration or explanation. On many instances, its coverage of official events is more of a ceremonial nature than information.

The agency has not been known to cover sensitive issues such as the economic crisis, political scandals or other controversial topics. But first indications that the agency might be changing its philosophy came during the three-day Lower House of Parliament session on the government programme last month when it carried full texts of speeches highly critical of Prime Minister Mudar Badran. A wave of

openness also seemed to have invaded Jordan Television, when it screened parts of deputies' addresses which took the government to task over economic and political issues.

The ministry itself is planning to redefine its function, Izzeddin said Saturday. "The ministry has gone through dramatic changes in the last few months in line with the liberalisation process in the country," he said. "Now the press is free; we no longer issue the guidelines."

The ministry will continue to give regular briefing to journalists but "they can use it or not use it as they deem fit," Izzeddin said. The same applies for reports carried by Petra, and "we do not insist that the papers carry our reports," he said.

During the past era of restrictive journalism which started with the government assuming control of the three major newspaper establishments in the Kingdom, any information emanating from the Ministry of Information was expected to be treated as, in the words of an official, "gospel" and carried with no elaboration or explanation of the issue involved. Local editors recall dozens of occasions when they were told to use "only the Petra version" of the story. However, the system took a distinct turn after the interim government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, which took power in April this year and

maintained a more-or-less laissez-faire approach to the newspapers.

The ministry used to hold regular meetings to instruct the local press about what was permissible for publication and what was not and had watchdogs at all the three papers until early last month when the Badran government reversed the August 1988 decision and returned the control of the newspapers to its former managers. However, the government still retains controlling interest in the papers.

Izzeddin said that there was no longer any censorship of the press by the Ministry of Information and newspapers can "print what they want." But, foreign publications entering Jordan will be scrutinised, he said.

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Conceding that ministries of information usually exist in countries which find a need to "control" information, the minister said: "Yes, it is true that they exist in developing countries and not in developed ones. In our case it is a title but the role has changed."

## Heated debate over disengagement delays decision on ministry abolition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A decision by the Lower House of Parliament's Legal Committee to approve a 1988 law which abolished the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs stirred heated debate at the House session Saturday.

Following the Kingdom's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, the law was issued last year cancelling the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs and transforming it into a department affiliated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Deputy Hussein Mnjalli, chairman of the Legal Committee, openly declared his total opposition to the cancellation of the ministry and the severance of links with the West Bank.

"The Kingdom's decision taken in 1988 is tantamount to a total separation of people belonging to the same nation," Mnjalli contended.

He said the first article of the Constitution states that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is an independent united and inseparable Kingdom with its people living on both banks of the River Jordan as one unit.

The text of the first article of the constitution is as follows: "The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is an independent sovereign Arab state. It is indivisible and

inalienable and no part of it may be ceded. The people of Jordan form a part of the Arab Nation, and its system of government is parliamentary with a hereditary monarchy."

Mnjalli said: "Since the people on both banks have never been separated and since Parliament decided in 1950 to reaffirm this historic fact, then there can be no power which can abrogate such a decision."

"Unity of Jordan's two banks is a national necessity and is more needed now in the course of liberating the occupied territories," Mnjalli said. "Through unity we are stronger in the process of liberation and since unity requires removal of all elements that tend to divide the united people and since we are all for national unity I here declare my strong opposition to the government's decision to cancel the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs."

Mujalli's views received a mixed reaction from several deputies, including Mohammad Abu Fares, the committee's rapporteur, who said that the session was called to discuss only the question of cancelling the law and not the severance issue.

But Prime Minister Mudar Badran, who attended Saturday's session, said that the creation of

the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs was purely for administrative and not for political reasons.

Deputy Abdul Rahim Ukour suggested that the question of severing ties with the West Bank should be discussed at a special session, and therefore a final decision was not taken on this point Saturday.

The prime minister was asked to comment on an incident in which a man was killed near the Jordanian-Syrian border and said that the man, Walid Hassan Samir, was killed during an attempt to infiltrate into Jordanian territory.

He made it clear that this might happen again in any attempt to infiltrate into Jordanian territory through illegitimate means.

The House endorsed a law cancelling the Amman Development Corporation.

### Other issues

Deputies discussed several other issues and some put forward a number of proposals calling for the Arabisation of university education, returning dis-

missed students who were studying on scholarships, stopping the process of merging the Irbid Community College for girls with the mixed community college at Huwara, issuing health insurance cards for needy workers, and the appointment of a governor for the Central Bank of Jordan who would be decided on by the Lower House of Parliament.

Other proposals included the opening of a government hospital at Ruseifa, providing homes for teachers in remote areas like Maan and Aqaba and paying government employees salaries on weekly basis.

The House Financial Committee adopted a series of measures designed to encourage public involvement in the process of introducing amendments to laws of financial nature.

At the end of the session, the committee issued a statement appealing to intellectuals, scholars and university professors concerned with financial issues to come forward with ideas and proposals on ways to handle issues on the committee's agenda. The statement said that the committee would soon issue a public statement summing up its deliberations on the proposed amendments to the Income Tax Law.

## Charity event highlights needs of the retarded

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day charity event opened here Saturday to focus public attention on the needs of mentally retarded children. The festival, held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, was organised by

the Inafor Corporation for Special Education. Handicapped children presented national songs and dances at the event.

The Queen, who attended the opening event, toured a bazaar section displaying embroideries,

clothes, artificial flowers and other home appliances prepared by the relatives of the handicapped children and volunteers.

According to the organisers, the proceeds of the bazaar will benefit the corporation's chari-

table projects. The corporation's director, Rabea Al Wazani, delivered a brief speech expressing appreciation of the Queen's support for charity work and presenting her with the corporation shield.

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**FARMERS PRESENT DRAFT LAW:** The Jordan Farmers Association (JFA) has presented to the Ministry of Agriculture a new draft law for the JFA for onward presentation to the Supreme Agricultural Council when it convenes, according to the Arab-language Al-Dustour paper reported. The draft law provides for establishing ten agricultural unions that would come under the umbrella of an association located in Amman. JFA President Talal Ghazawi said. He added that the JFA presented to Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Araybat a memorandum including farmers' problems and proposal to solve them (J.T.)

**JORDAN-SYRIA TRADE:** Syrian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Mohammad Amadi has discussed with Jordanian Ambassador to Syria Nayef Hadid economic cooperation, and means to develop trade between the two countries. During a meeting they held in Damascus Saturday, they discussed preparations for the meeting of the joint Jordanian-Syrian follow-up committee which will convene early next week to pave the way for the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meetings.

**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS:** Municipal election for Jdaydeh township in Karak Governorate will be held March 29. A voter registration committee Saturday began preparing lists of voters (Petra).

**APPEAL TO MERCHANTS:** The Amman Chamber of Trade Saturday appealed to Amman merchants to cooperate with the Greater Amman Municipality to keep the capital clean and tidy to visitors and tourists. The appeal followed a meeting between Greater Amman Mayor Ali Subeiat and the chamber of trade board of directors (Petra).

**CIVIL DEFENCE COURSE:** A total of 25 women from the Princess Basma Centre for Social Services in Zarqa Governorate Saturday concluded a course in civil defence. The week-long course introduced the participants to matters related to first aid, rescue operations, and firefighting as well as the role of the Civil Defence Department in preserving public safety (Petra).

**RADIO, TV COURSE:** A total of 26 new employees at the radio and television stations Saturday enrolled in a training course. The two-week course includes theoretical and practical training as well as field visits to radio and television studios to get introduced to the nature of work (Petra).

**AOAD MEETING:** Jordan will participate in the meetings of the Council of Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) which will convene in Tripoli, Libya, Tuesday on ministerial level. The three-day meeting will review the AOAD achievements in 1989, the 1990-1991 budget as well as future plans that serve objectives of agricultural development strategy in the Arab countries. The delegation will be led by Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Araybat and include Director of Agricultural Economy and Planning Sa'ud Zahair (Petra).

**EDUCATION GUIDELINES:** Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairperson of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) board of trustees, has recommended publishing a study prepared by Samar Dudin Karajah to provide guidelines to those in charge of educating children, specialists, and those interested in this field. The study, entitled "Employing Drama in Education," is designed to familiarise children with collective work, promote their mental capabilities, and develop their abilities to face problems (Petra).

## Fariz to lead team to AOID conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, convening Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, approved Jordan's participation in meetings of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) scheduled to convene in Baghdad Tuesday. A delegation led by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Fariz will represent Jordan at the meeting. The Cabinet also approved Jordan's participation in the 44th

## Small proportion of arable land forested

AMMAN (J.T.) — Only a small proportion of arable land in Jordan, nearly 736,000 dunums, is covered with trees and other vegetation, and fires destroy nearly 30,000 trees annually, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and published in the local press Saturday.

The bulletin said that the concerned authorities have collected JD 87,230 in 1988 in fines imposed on people causing fires through negligence.

The bulletin, issued on the eve of the country's Arbor Day celebrations, said that the ministry's nurseries now produce nearly 13 million forest tree saplings on an annual basis of which 50 per cent are planted by ministry teams at afforestation zones while the rest is distributed to various schools, government departments and organisations to be planted around their premises. A total of 189,000 dunums of land are now

planted with forest trees but the ministry is aiming to green all areas in the country by the year 2000, the bulletin said.

The bulletin was issued at a time when the Ministry of Agriculture is reported making preparations for tree planting celebrations to be conducted in various parts of Jordan with the main event to be held Jan. 15 at Juzzeh near the Queen Alia International Airport under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

This year, the ministry plans to focus attention on greening areas around the Amman-Aqaba desert highway by planting trees with five rows along each side of a 30 kilometre stretch out of a total of 300 kilometres extending between Amman and the seaport, the bulletin said.

Areas of a 50 kilometre stretch of the highway have already been planted by Maan, Tafleh and Karak governorates.

Other employees, correspondence for government offices, dealing with the public, cooperation among various units of a government department and office accounting will be given in the new year 1990, Ulayyan added.

He said seminars and symposiums for government employees on public administration and studies and research work would also be organised.

He said that the Kingdom's agreement, signed with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), would be implemented and the IPA, in cooperation with the Civil Service Commission, would try to maximise its benefit from the agreement and available funds to carry out the training courses in the Kingdom.

## ACC begins talks on policy coordination

BAGHDAD (AP) — Senior officials from Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen began talks Saturday on coordinating their countries' foreign policies.

Helmi Nanner, secretary-general of the Arab Cooperation Council, said the officials will discuss foreign policy issues ahead of the meeting of heads of government set for Tuesday.

Issues that will top the agenda are regional developments including the situation in Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq peace, Nanner said.

The diplomats will lay down recommendations for their foreign ministers to endorse

before proposing them to the meeting of the heads of government.

The ACC was formed in February last year and its leaders said it has no political ambitions beyond seeking to unify the four countries' standpoints on various issues.

Nanner said the government leaders will review the work of several committees and that accords have been drafted on how to achieve economic integration between the four countries.

The Egyptian economics professor said the group is still moving carefully on integration and needs more time and

effort to achieve it.

"We are still in the first stage of laying the foundations for such an integration and we don't find reasons to rush," Nanner said.

The heads of government will review 12 accords prepared by experts of the four countries on cooperation and integration in transport, scientific fields, oil and health care.

The four countries agreed to draft several pacts in economic and labour fields during their last summit meeting in San'a, North Yemen in September.

But the ministers of trade and economics failed to agree last month on an agreement

that would have laid the groundwork for the four countries in abolish customs duties.

Instead, they agreed to give their partners limited preferential treatment in imports of certain goods.

Arab diplomats said Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen will express support for President Saddam Hussein's latest peace move aimed at breaking the deadlock in the peace talks with Iran.

Egypt, a staunch supporter of Iraq during the war, has restored its diplomatic ties with Syria which supported Iran. Iraq has not commented on the Egyptian move.

## Million children return to school

AMMAN (J.T.) — More than one million children returned to school Saturday at the start of the second term of the 1989-1990 scholastic year following a three-week winter recess.

A statement by the Ministry of Education said that a total of 1,028,164 male and female students at all levels had resumed studies at government and private schools as well as schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

The schools will have a two-week spring holiday in April before the third term which ends by mid-June.

The statement said that the students receive education at the hand of 48,566 teachers, of whom 1928 are nursery teachers at various towns in the country.

The minister of education said here last November that the ministry this year embarked on a JD 100 million plan for the development of the Kingdom's education sector. The plan, he

said, affects teachers, students, school curricula and buildings.

According to ministry officials, it will take up to 10 years to implement resolutions and recommendations passed by the 1987 first national education conference, designed to overhaul the whole education process.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education announced Saturday that it had received a number of school buildings constructed in the past year with the Maan

Governorate to help dispose of rented buildings and the existing two-shift schools.

The ministry said that several schools complete with their facilities, utilities, laboratories and workshops built at a total cost of more than JD 700,000 were completed.

It said work was still underway on JD 900,000 worth of school buildings which would be completed during 1990 within Maan Governorate.

## Romania elections

(Continued from page 1)

front then abolished the death penalty and said members of the security forces convicted by military tribunals would be sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

"Death to the Securitate" and "Death for death" the crowd chanted, referring to the estimated 10,000 who died in the clashes between security forces and the army during the revolution.

In the western Transylvanian town of Timisoara, where protests in mid-December sparked the uprising, young protesters also gathered outside local NSF headquarters Friday to protest at the credentials of some front members.

Local NSF leader Lorin Fortuna resigned just before the demonstration and the army commander agreed to run the area until new elections were held for the front committee within a week, the official Rompres news

agency reported.

A leading Bucharest newspaper, Romania Libera, called Saturday for the sacking of Vice-President Dumitru Mazilu for his past associations with Ceausescu.

The dictator fired Mazilu as ambassador to the United Nations early last year after preventing him from presenting a human rights report critical of Romania to the world body.

But the newspaper questioned his credentials as an anti-Ceausescu dissident, saying he had been a colonel in the hated secret police. It also accused him making a personal bid for power by whipping up demonstrators with anti-Communist chants at the Friday protest outside NSF headquarters.

Another leading front member and dissident who has also come under public criticism, Silvin Brucan, wrote in the newspaper Adevarul Saturday that Romania needed democracy to enter the technological era.

## Modrow

(Continued from page 1)

Hilsberg agreed the new opposition groups and parties displayed "a certain inexperience" but this was not the same as incompetence.

"In any case we couldn't do a worse job than the Communists," he said to loud applause from the 400 delegates at an East Berlin congress hall.

The SPD would not form a coalition with the Communists after free elections May 6, he added.

The SPD has 32,000 members and is one of the opposition groups participating in weekly talks with the government parties.

Others, including the Centrist Democratic Awakening Party, have also called for an election alliance of all opposition forces but some conservative groups

want to form their own slate for the poll.

East Germany's SPD is closely linked to West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) and several of its most prominent members were expected to address the congress.

"We highly appreciate the support of the SPD in the structuring of our party and in the election campaign," said Hilsberg.

## Azeris seize buildings

(Continued from page 1)

Moscow's control, then returned to Azerbaijan under supervision of a parliamentary commission.

Armenians began protesting again, and Azerbaijan renewed a rail blockade of Armenia last week in a campaign to retain control of the enclave. Fuel and food are running dangerously low in Armenia, which receives most of its supplies through Azerbaijan.

"The people are furious because the central authorities are not paying adequate attention to events," said Eduard Shakh-Nazaryan, an editor at the state-run Armenpress agency.

"This will lead to unpredictable consequences if it continues," he said in a telephone interview from Yerevan. "I mean, military conflict between us if they continue like this."

TASS reported Friday that an Interior Ministry officer on assignment to help maintain order in the region, was shot to death apparently by an Azerbaijani policeman in the Azerbaijani-populated village of Akhul.

TASS gave no other details. The Azeri Popular Front began moving into public buildings in Lenkoran Thursday. The following day Lestvina newspaper reported that the city's radio station had been taken over and a "provisional defence committee" was keeping law and order.

The latest upheavals in Azerbaijan, which started a week ago when nationalists began tearing

down sections of the border fence with Iran, pose an additional problem for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

While the independence movement in the Caucasus is far less advanced than in the Baltic region, a strong nationalist tide in the south has frequently been marked by violence and Moscow has appeared incapable of maintaining order.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Saturday his country would welcome Soviet Muslims who wish to visit Iran, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Velayati arrived in Tahrir, capital of Iran's east Azerbaijan province, to finalise details to facilitate travel for the Soviet Muslims.

The province borders Soviet Azerbaijan, once part of Iran. Shiite Muslims in the Soviet region have been waging a protest campaign for two weeks, demanding close links with their ethnic co-religionists in northwest Iran amid the wave of reform that has been sweeping Eastern Europe.

The report did not say when the first batch of Soviet visitors was expected in Iran. But Tehran Radio, also monitored in Nicosia, said that Velayati's trip was undertaken "in light of recent developments in Soviet Azerbaijan, and following protests by Muslims there demanding easier travel between the two neighbouring countries."

Next Thursday and every Thursday read

The Star

Jordan's political, economic & cultural weekly newsmagazine  
P O Box 9313, Amman, Jordan. Tel: 648298



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors  
MARMOUD AL KAYED

Editor-in-Chief  
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Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
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Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

## How to stop the exodus

THE growing anxiety over the news that more and more Palestinians are leaving the West Bank and Gaza Strip and while less and less are returning is a legitimate concern that needs to be addressed before the problem develops into a crisis. There is no true Arab nationalist who would want to see the beginning of a Palestinian exodus from the occupied territories to the neighbouring Arab countries or, worse still, to foreign countries. Yet the solution of such an alarming situation does not lie in locking the doors and windows on the Palestinian people as some commentators have innocently suggested. Rather, the panacea can only be found in positive and affirmative Arab action. The Arabs should translate their verbal support to the Palestinian intifada and their distant clapping and remote control glorification of the uprising into deeds.

There is no doubt that the intifada is causing hardships to the Palestinian people, and unless some of these difficulties — especially their material dimension — are addressed and rectified by a genuine Arab rescue plan, there will always be fear that some of the Palestinian people must severely affected would opt to leave their homeland. Of course the Palestinian people should be exhorted to remain steadfast in their country and continue to wage their glorious intifada, but words of encouragement need to be buttressed by actions that the affected people can feel and count on. Once this aspect of the issue is properly addressed and rectified, one may start addressing the other outstanding issues that have a bearing on the whole issue.

There must not be any fear to debate every matter in order to stop any Palestinian exodus no matter how minuscule it is at this stage. The PLO should be drawn into this deliberation which could include discussing the various aspects of the intifada with a view to weed out some of them if such a course would put an end to the ominous exodus from the occupied territories. Maintaining a robust economy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip through massive Arab aid would lend support to the noble objective of keeping the people firm and strong where they belong and should belong. And since the intifada is developing into a drawn-out struggle that is testing the will and determination of each side, the tactics of the intifada need to be periodically reexamined while maintaining and honouring its strategy. But whatever the decision and verdict on how to stop the haemorrhage from the occupied territories are, they must not ever be by way of locking up the Palestinian people by bureaucratic or forceful means. There must be more ingenious ways available.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday welcomed the Soviet Union's mediation bid between Iran and Iraq to reach a comprehensive settlement to the Gulf conflict. The paper said that Moscow's mediation bid assumes a great importance especially as it was welcomed by Baghdad and Tehran, which means that the leadership in both countries are convinced that the present stalemate should not be allowed to continue for ever. Now is the time to reach a lasting and comprehensive settlement and peace which will be supported by the world community at large, said the paper. It should be noted however, that the Soviet bid followed President Saddam Hussein's latest offer to Iran for peace, and it should be emphasised also that it is Iraq which has been calling for peace and extending its peaceful hand to Iran despite the fact that it came out victorious from the eight-year long war, the paper pointed out. Iraq has been patient and at the same time striving to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598, while Iran has been disregarding peace offers from Baghdad and peace mediation by various nations and world organisations, the paper added.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily criticises the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran for taking measures, which he claims, are detrimental to the Jordanian farmers. Fahed Al Faneh says that the government has allowed the fruits and vegetables from the occupied territories to flood the local markets in view of the lack of sufficient supplies, but has not taken into consideration the interests of the local farmers. He says that the government's decision was also politically oriented to show support for the Palestinian farmers and their steadfastness against Israeli rule. Of course, the local consumers are happy to buy their needs at reduced prices but the farmers are to bear the brunt and to pay the price, he adds. Local farmers have the right to know the government's policies in advance and to take precautionary measures, the writer suggests. He says that the government should also control the goods coming from the West Bank since Israel brags about its continued success in marketing its products in the Arab World through the open bridges. The writer suggests that if the Kingdom is to accept West Bank crops it should be able to market its cement and fertiliser west of the river.

Al Dustour on Saturday tackled the question of elections in the occupied Arab territories, criticising Israeli leaders' call for organising the elections on a unilateral basis without cooperation from the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The paper said that these ideas reflect a real crisis in Israel and also Israel's failure so far to put an end to the Palestinian uprising. The paper also called attention to Israel's attempts to blackmail the current US-Egyptian-Israeli contacts and said that by its manoeuvres, Israel is hoping to stall for time and destroy all chances for holding peace talks directly with the Palestinian people. The paper at the same time, criticised the United States for not only being a true ally to an aggressor country, but also for failing to take a firm stand with regard to Israel's manoeuvres and to squarely put the blame on the Zionist leaders. The paper said that Israel is clearly trying to escape from the dilemma by trying to divert attention from the real issue of occupation and is not helping the cause of peace by ignoring the status of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. A return to old games and manoeuvres on the part of the Israeli rulers, said the paper, cannot put an end to the intifada; and the despair which now characterises the Israeli political leaders will only be confronted by further determination by the Palestinian people to regain their rights and their homeland.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

## What if cost replaced interest?

DURING the three-day parliamentary debate over confidence in the new government, the Islamic bloc put forward conditions for granting confidence. One of these conditions was to abolish interest charged to borrowers from the Housing Corporation and the Agricultural Credit Corporation. In his response, the prime minister told Parliament that the two specialised credit institutions would be instructed to recover the cost only without interest. The answer was assumed to be satisfactory, and the vote of confidence was secured.

Let us assume that the demand and the response over the interest were for real and not mere rhetoric, and that the government decided to instruct the two corporations accordingly — although such instructions could not be made under the current laws — what then would be the results of such an action?

I say that the results would be negative. First on the corporations themselves, second on the current beneficiaries, and third on the future potential beneficiaries and would-be clients of the two institutions. The concerned Islamic deputies are the first to realise the difficulty of introducing a no-interest concept into one part of an integrated free economic system. Examples of failures are in abundance in Egypt, Kuwait, and Jordan, where

millions were lost in the experiment.

The Housing Corporation currently charges five per cent per annum, which is lower than the financial and administrative cost. This is evident by the huge deficit in its balance sheet and its need for continuous injection of funds from the government to keep it afloat. Therefore, the present beneficiaries of the Housing Corporation are not interested in the cost concept, simply because they pay less. They are better off paying a simple interest of five per cent, than paying the actual cost, let alone profits.

On the other hand, public credit corporations do not have shareholders nor do they pay dividends. Their surpluses, if any, are used to expand their services and recycle the funds to more beneficiaries. Thus the low interest collected from farmers is being recycled back to them. If we insist that credit corporations should operate at loss, the first to suffer would be the groups that these corporations were meant to aid, namely limited income families as far as the Housing Corporation is concerned, and farmers as far as the Agricultural Credit Corporation is concerned.

It may be argued that public sector corporations do not care

about profits, because they can always look to the government for financing. But the government decided, under the circumstances, that it cannot continue subsidising these corporations, and that they should become self-sufficient. The Treasury itself suffers from the deficit and wants to see public sector units operate efficiently and economically to cover their running cost and grow.

I believe that both the condition submitted by the Islamic bloc deputies and the answer offered by the prime minister were not based on economic calculation of the results. The deputies acted out of principle and the prime minister answered out of good will.

Before principles and good intentions are translated into action, someone has to come up with practical, and economically sound formulas which would guarantee the recovery by the credit corporations of their capital, in real not nominal terms, together with their actual costs. Such formulas should be applied on future transactions only, not on current contracts.

Finally it may be useful to point out that the real interest collected by the specialised credit institutions is negative, because it is lower than the rate of inflation. It is less than what is needed to compensate for the depreciation of the paper money.

## Euphoria over possible German unity gives way to anxiety

By Richard Murphy  
Reuters

BONN — When the Berlin Wall was opened amid joyful and emotional scenes last November, it seemed here that anything was possible — even the rapid re-emergence of a united Germany.

Two months later, the euphoria is evaporating as West Germans look at the political and economic problems facing their neighbour.

In West Germany, whose constitution is committed to unity after more than four decades of German division, the emotion-laden issue has transformed the political landscape.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) will make unity

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) will make unity the key issue in their campaign for elections in December.

"1990 will be a year of destiny for us Germans," CDU general secretary Volker Ruehe said in a strongly nationalistic new year message to party officials. "For us Germans the question... of the state unity of our fatherland is on the agenda."

Egon Bahr, foreign affairs expert for the opposition Social Democrats (SPD), said: "This is something we have dreamed about for decades and now the situation is here."

Behind the rhetoric, concern is growing about the scale of the problems overshadowing rela-

tions between the two states that emerged from the rubble of Western and Soviet occupation zones after Germany's defeat in World War II.

West Germans are starting to realise just how daunting East Germany's economic problems are and Kohl is still working hard to try to convince Bonn's allies and neighbours that a united Germany would not destabilise Europe.

In East Germany, the Communists are accused of having dug in their heels over opposition demands for reform.

The East German Communists oppose unification but thousands of people see it as the only hope for their battered economy. Demonstrators chant "Germany — one fatherland" and nearly 1,800 people a day are still moving to the West.

Kohl stands by the vision of a united "fatherland" which he unveiled in a 10-point unity programme in November.

He proposed joint government commissions, and wide-ranging contacts, arguing that close institutional ties could lead peacefully to unification some time in the future.

Talks between Kohl's ministers and their East German counterparts, aimed at creating what both sides call a "community of treaties," have got off to a slow start.

Bonn's economics ministry says East German proposals for economic reform are disappointing and do not go far enough.

Bonn will not release more than 10 billion marks (\$5 billion) in aid until it is satisfied that serious free market reforms are underway.

West German Environment Minister Klaus Töpel, who has promised money to clean up East Germany, was shocked to discover that its pollution problems were worse than anyone had imagined.

Kohl's dilemma is to ensure that the help urgently needed to improve the quality of life for ordinary East Germans gets through as quickly as possible without being seen to enhance the credibility of the unelected government.

He is worried that the economic situation could get so bad that it provokes serious unrest or a massive new exodus to the West, putting enormous strains on both countries.

"It cannot be the goal of our policy that as many people as possible from East Germany should come to us in West Germany. It is my aim that they should gain hope for their future there, in their home," he said in his first press conference of 1990.

The unprecedented scale of the influx of East Germans last year is prompting West Germans to ask some uncomfortable questions about their open-door policy.

A record 343,854 East Germans settled here in 1989, almost nine times as many as in 1988, along with 377,055 ethnic Germans from the Soviet Union and

other Eastern European countries. In the first eight days of 1990, 14,226 East Germans arrived.

Oskar Lafontaine, deputy SPD leader and the party's likely candidate for chancellor in the December elections, said Bonn should consider curbing welfare benefits for East Germans to encourage them to stay at home.

His views, initially greeted with protests, appear to be gaining ground. The government is looking at ways of curbing abuse of the social security system by East Germans and limiting the health care benefits of temporary visitors.

The SPD, which for many years preferred to play down the "German question," now has a unity programme similar to Kohl's. It envisages step-by-step cooperation leading to a confederation in which both states continue to exist but concede some sovereignty to a new supra-national body.

The SPD says NATO and the Warsaw Pact will first have to be dismantled as part of a new "European peace order."

"As long as the two alliances exist, there can be no state unity," Egon Bahr said.

The possibility of unity has also encouraged a new national self-awareness among mainstream politicians.

"We do not need any assent from abroad for confederate steps," the CDU's Ruehe said last month.



"The German Reunification"

Deputy SPD leader Oskar Lafontaine said West Germany should try to curb the rights of the three Western allied powers — the United States, Britain and France — to stop them, she said.

## 1980s showed final victories as rare as final defeats

By Konrad Adam

FOR over a generation there has not been a year that was fuller of moving events. No-one who can remember the onset of the cold war can have experienced anything like it.

It is not just that changes, uprisings, revolutions have followed each other in unprecedentedly swift succession; they have also taken place where they would least have been expected after 40 years of status quo: in the heart of Europe.

The final months of a year that began with recollections of the momentous storming of the Bastille were marked by a number of revolutions here and now, revolutions the results and consequences of which cannot yet be foreseen. The year just ended marks the end of a decade spanned by an unusually wide range of events, starting on a note of gloom.

Between Christmas 1979 and New Year 1980 Soviet troops invaded Afghanistan. They allegedly came in response to an appeal for fraternal assistance. Their arrival coincided with the fall of the old puppet government and the appointment of its successor.

Sending in the troops has often worked, but on this occasion success was elusive. The war the Russians waged on the Afghan resistance led to both military and diplomatic losses, the latter weighing much more heavily.

When an overwhelming majority in the U.N. General Assembly called for an immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan it was clear that Moscow had isolated itself internationally.

Yet eight years were to elapse before the Russians left. Mikhail Gorbachev, who had come to power in Moscow in 1985, realised that the Soviet Union had overextended its power and was making sacrifices with no prospect of corresponding gains.

What was new was the readiness to act in accordance with this realisation. When the commanding officer of Soviet forces in Afghanistan was the last to leave the country, in spring 1989, he was hailed as a hero, a hero of the troop pullout.

The Soviet withdrawal marked more than the failure of a military adventure. The Red Army was not just the armed wing of a

world power; it also stood for the victory of an idea, vouchsafed the success of a plan for revolutionary salvation and saw itself as an auxiliary of world history, the laws of which it knew and enforced.

Wherever it appeared on the scene, it had progress on its side, which by definition meant that a withdrawal of any kind was ruled out. No statement by Karl Marx is likely to have been quoted more often than his desire not just to explain but to change the world by means of philosophy.

It has been quoted so often that the conservative features that were characteristic of Marxist practice from the outset tended to be forgotten. They were first apparent shortly after the Russian Revolution, the first acid test of Soviet reality.

When the theoretical consequences of revolution, as forecast by Marx and Engels, world conflagration, failed to happen Stalin substituted the tenet of communism in one country for the theory of permanent revolution. It rendered nothing but made do initially with what already existed and was thus the precursor of today's "real existing socialism," a catchphrase with unmistakably apologetic undertones.

Fidel Castro has arguably been clearer, doubtless unintentionally, in indicating the extent to which he feels he and his cause are on the defensive.

He sensed something of the twilight of the gods that had begun in Europe but refused to concede that it was on the cards in the Caribbean too.

If Cuba's destiny was to be the last defender of socialism, he said in a speech to commemorate Cuban troops killed in action in Angola and elsewhere, the country would do its duty to the last drop of its blood. That is not the way someone speaks who is sure of his cause and feels at one with the laws of history.

The blood toll Castro pledged Cuba to pay was offered not in the firm conviction of future victory but in defence of a position that was felt to be not very promising: defeat, but with the colours still flying.

Anyone who talks in these terms must have retreat in mind. The military, the last force on which socialism felt able to rely unconditionally and the only one on which it had until recently been able to rely for expansion

and territorial gains, seems no longer to be of use for purposes of old.

So-called revolutionary parties have of late unmistakably taken on the appearance of security forces that are much more intensively concerned with maintaining power than with gaining it.

Despite the familiar slogans about the heroic struggle of the oppressed masses under the victorious banner of the international proletariat, maintaining rather than changing existing conditions was their overriding objective.

Leonid Brezhnev and Todor Zhivkov led their respective parties for 18 years, the same length of time as Erich Honecker led the SED.

When Herr Honecker finally, reluctantly, stepped down he had designated Egon Krenz as his successor in much the same way as he had been made Walter Ulbricht's heir.

In the 1980s the most convincing examples of what Max Weber called traditional rule have been provided by Eastern-style party dictatorships and not by the handful of monarchies that have survived in the West. Like feudal lords they have based their right to rule on the claim to represent a historically ordained order.

Change by rapprochement, Egon Bahr's formula, gave rise to misunderstanding until the last, and when change finally came, it did so in decidedly revolutionary manner.

What had previously at best been expected as the culmination of protracted negotiations — the announcement that free elections were to be held, the opening of the wall, the disarming of the works militias and much, much more — came suddenly in swift succession.

All told it seemed to have been the reward of persistent effort rather than the result of readiness for rapprochement.

Reluctant to run the unforeseeable risks of unbridled change, both sides had agreed to maintain the status quo as their safest foreign policy tenet.

Movement was only permitted where it didn't upset the balance of power, on the periphery of the major blocs, especially in the Third World.

In Europe peace was defined as stability and stability as the status quo. It was occasionally called into question, but only verbally

and never so seriously that consequences might be feared.

President Mitterrand kept up the TV speeches in which he called for a revision of Yalta for only as long as it seemed safe to assume that everything would, in the final analysis, stay as it was — until, that is, Gorbachev came to power in 1985.

He then began to talk like all the others who wanted things to stay as they were. A quote from a Warsaw newspaper reflects what used to be a widespread feeling: "We had grown used to the status quo," wrote Zygie Warszawy, "it was convenient for us all. Any questions were deferred until an indefinite future." The indefinite future seems now to have arrived.

The status quo emerged as the dogma of post-war European politics to a degree comparable only with the decades that followed the Congress of Vienna.

But even this dogma aged with the years. Whereas time had stood still at the most unpropitious moment in Europe, it moved on as a matter of course in other parts of the world.

Reference to the status quo seemed threadbare because, as a concept, and assuming it to stand for more than immobility, it is not clear-cut. This is aptly illustrated by a brief exchange between Stalin and Truman at the Potsdam conference.

When Churchill asked what "Germany" meant, whether it was to be understood in its present sense and if not, how else, Stalin's answer was clear: "Germany," he said, "is what became of it after the war." There was no other Germany; it was "as it is in 1945."

Truman persisted and the Big Three eventually agreed that their talks were to be based on Germany in its 1937 borders, "but only as a working hypothesis to make our work easier," as Stalin was quick to add. His words made it clear that little had been gained by the compromise. It all depends on the status quo deadline and what you hope to achieve by it.

Extending from a polyvalent past to an indefinite future, the vague concept of a status quo only seemingly applies to the present. Much the same is true of the other catchword, stability. It is of little value as a political objective because change has its good points.

Events in recent months have majestically reminded us that politics must acknowledge the fundamental truth of what Max Born describes as a law of nature: that stability and life are, in the long term, irreconcilable.

Nothing was more prejudicial to stability than what people in Prague and Budapest, in Leipzig, Dresden and Berlin demanded and did. Yet nothing has been felt to be more liberating and of greater service to life. When stability comes to be synonymous with oppression, as it did in Eastern Europe, and to serve as an

alibi for inactivity, then people long for change.

The future, history, the German Question — all at once everything that previously seemed, time and again, to be defined, determined or hopeless is on the move and an open question again.

We are reminded that eternal laws and irrevocable decisions were always proclaimed with a specific intention in mind and that final victories are as infrequent as final defeats — Frankfurt Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland.

## OPEN FORUM

### The sign of hearing impaired

I am recommending that each of the educators have tried, with little success, to force deaf children an understanding of Arabic by showing the use of Jordanian Sign Language (JSL), a language that uses gesture instead of the spoken word and is entirely distinct from Arabic. Yet JSL may be ideal to help children learn to read and write Arabic by laying down the basic rules in the brain for processing language. And as classroom results and new studies of psychological development have shown, profoundly deaf children can rarely acquire these rules through manual forms of Arabic or oral coaching.

The JSL will have to be viewed by linguists as a full-fledged language, capable of conveying abstract thoughts, and totally unlike sign systems that translate Arabic words and word-order. JSL will be evolved separately from Arabic and possesses its own grammar and syntax.

I have an idea to do a new research shows that deaf children can pick up JSL in the same way that hearing children learn to speak. All children are born with a capacity to acquire language. For hearing children, this is an effortless process; their brains are primed from birth until about 6 years of age to absorb the vocabulary and rules of grammar of a number of languages, simply by hearing and speaking to people around them. This marvelous faculty shows a child is no better than an adult at picking up a new language.

An experiment has yet to be tried in using JSL when we propose a model programme for introducing it to all elementary and secondary schools. Among other recommendations, we advise hearing parents of deaf children to learn JSL and to place their children in day care centres where deaf adults can serve as language role models. Having mastered JSL, children can, in theory, then learn Arabic.

Yet to many deaf people, speaking is hardly the point. I will try to be thriving that I have a JSL interpreter, and I am reading Arabic almost at grade level. Though I almost hardly may be able to communicate easily with my hearing people, for me and for other deaf children, JSL offers the clearest path to an education. It is very important that all children's brains is primed to learn sign language easily.

Maher Abu-Khader,  
Deaf Student, Gallaudet University,  
Washington, D.C.



# Tibet looks to the sun for energy

By Li Hui

Energy-starved Tibet is turning to its richest potential power source — the sun. With little oil or coal, but with as much sunshine as Saudi Arabia or the Sahara, this region on the roof of the world is looking to the sun to solve its problems.

With an average altitude of over 4,000 metres above sea level, Tibet gets between 2,500 and 3,400 hours of sunshine per year. And Lhasa, the regional capital, is called "Solar City" as it gets an incredible 3,000 hours of annual sunshine. The region's annual radiation averages 170 kcal per square centimetre, rising to 185.9 kcal for Lhasa itself.

Tibet has considerable hydroelectric potential, but construction of generating plants is expensive, and seasonal variations affect output. There is less water in winter. And the few existing power plants can hardly supply electricity to herders' homes scattered in the vast pastoral areas. So the development of a more feasible alternative such as solar energy is urgent.

"Only in the last 30 years has it become possible to harness solar energy scientifically," said Chen Zhengrong, director of the Tibet Solar Energy Research Institute. But Tibetans, he said, had been using solar energy since ancient times, albeit in simple ways, and based on the experi-

ences of generations. The famous Sunlight Hall, bodhi of the 14th Dalai Lama, was built 300 years ago in the Potale Palace. Large windows face south to let in more sunlight. The window sills are only 40 centimetres above the ground. There are no eaves, so as to let in as much sunlight as possible. As a result, more than half of the hall is warmed by the sun in winter.

Ordinary people, unable to afford that level of luxury, simply painted their window-frames black to absorb more heat from the sun. This practice is still popular in Tibet.

Scientific use of solar energy began from necessity. Because of the low temperature on the plateau, it was impossible to grow such vegetables as eggplant and tomato. People in Tibet relied on dried vegetables from China's other regions. In 1956, an all-glass greenhouse of 100 square metres was built along the Qinghai-Tibet highway to provide a road maintenance crew with fresh vegetables. The experiment proved successful and for the first time Tibetans tasted the fruits of scientific research into solar energy.

Greenhouses became popular in the 1970s for their economic benefits. Statistics show that the cost of building one can be recouped in two years with an annual output of 225 tons of vegetables per hectare. By the end of 1980, 200,000 square

metres of greenhouse had been built in Tibet.

Such successes encouraged people to study wider applications for solar energy. Research groups were organised, and soon the first solar bathroom was built in Lhasa. Consisting simply of a broom tube, a steel plate and two gasolene barrels, this solar water-heating system made it possible for city dwellers to have a relaxing bath after the day's work. Hitherto the only bathing facility for most Tibetans are the rivers, which defy access in most time of the year since the water is icy cold.

Further research was halted when the Cultural Revolution began in 1966. But Tibetans remembered what had been achieved. So when the world energy crisis occurred in the early 1970s and intensified Tibet's need for energy, solar research was quickly revived. A number of solar devices were made, including solar boilers, solar cooking stoves and solar PV cells.

The solar boiler first benefitted Tibet's urban residents. In winter when electricity becomes extremely scarce in the major cities, local residents were reluctant to use their limited supply of gasoline to boil drinking water. The problem was easily solved by the solar boiler which can boil 10 pounds of water in 40 minutes.

The solar cooking stove has come into its own in pastoral and agricultural areas. In Tibet's

western Ari Prefecture, herdsmen had used yak and sheep manure as fuel to cook. Farmers, however, had to buy manure from the herdsmen or chop down ever scarce trees that had taken 200 to 300 years to grow.

"The cooking stove makes our life easier," said a village headman in Tailingteching County, 25 kilometres west of Lhasa. The villagers, he said, use the stove unless it rains or becomes cloudy.

No one has so far been burnt or scalded, but burnt rice is common for the new users. People learn to adjust the focal point of the stove, where the heat is concentrated, only after they come to know the product better.

Newly designed solar cells are coming into use in herders' homes. These cells provide power for lighting, thus replacing butter which used to serve farmers as a light source. A solar cell actually stores solar energy. It has also a function in TV relay services. Most cells come from China's southern Yunnan province, as Tibet cannot yet produce them.

"We focus on the systematic study of solar energy, rather than on production," said Chen Zhengrong of the Tibet Solar Energy Research Institute. "We are more interested in looking for solar products that can best fit Tibet's special conditions," he explained.

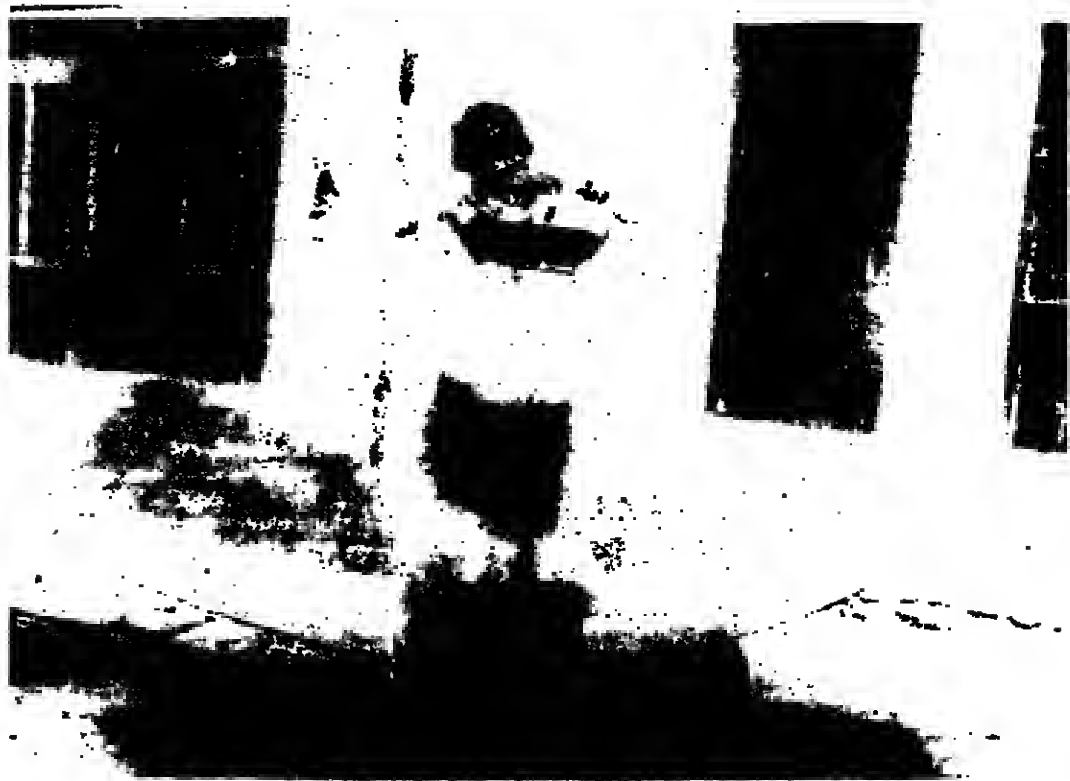
The director takes as an example the windows of a solar re-

sidential building. The amount of the heat a room can absorb through the windows, he said, depends on the quality and area of the glass as well as the number of glass layers. When there is sunlight, Chen said, the larger the windows, the more heat the room gets. Whereas when there is no sunshine such large windows cool a room. "What we try to do," Chen said, "is to find out what kind of glass we will have to use."

Solar energy is also used in industry, such as in the drying of Tibet's traditional medicinal herbs and leather. The herbs used to be spread out in the open to dry and were often ruined by wind and sand. Leather was similarly affected. Nowadays herbs and leather are dried more quickly and more cleanly inside solar buildings.

Solar energy research is financed by the state and the Tibet regional government. Two new energy research groups have been sent to Tibet by the state, and other provinces have given financial support also. A 100,000 yuan (about \$27,000) fund, allocated by the regional government in 1982 and 1983, according to Tsering Dorjee, deputy director of the regional industry and power department, was used in building greenhouses and solar bath-rooms.

With 7,300 solar cooking stoves, 15,500 square metres of solar boilers and 20,000 kilowatts of solar PV cells in use now, solar



No danger of burning the hands energy saves about 20,000 tons of coal each year in Tibet. The 80,000 square metres of solar residential buildings account for half of China's total.

were convinced by the efficiency of solar energy and the new products have a ready market.

Department stores in Tibet complain of a shortage of solar products. "We sold out 1,200 solar cooking stoves within a few days in May," said Wu Ming, general manager of the solar products shop. "There seem to be endless requests for the products and I hope more will come," Wu said.

\$870,000 project for China's northwestern Gansu province, funded by the United Nations, will also benefit Tibet. Holland is providing \$180,000 to assist Tibet's energy planning.

"We have a long way to go," said Chen Zhengrong. "What we have achieved is just a beginning." In the next several years, Chen said, solar energy will be used more extensively, even in street lamps and in motor vehicles — China features.

Help is on the way. An

## Artificial heart developers concentrate on electric versions

By A.J. Hostetter  
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The air-driven artificial heart failed as a permanent device but, scientists report, work is proceeding on a new generation of plastic hearts that would let patients live independent of external machines.

Some researchers said last week that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's withdrawal of approval for the Jarvik-7, a mechanical heart, was a setback for creating a heart that would last long enough to make artificial hearts.

They agree that the future of artificial hearts lies in totally transplantable devices, such as battery-run devices that also could use external energy sources.

Some day, a patient's plastic heart may beat from current flowing from his car's cigarette lighter, says Dr. Donald Olsen, a University of Utah researcher developing the Utah-100 hydraulic heart.

"The air-driven heart has failed as a permanent device," said Dr. William Pierce of the Penn State Medical Centre in Hershey. Pierce implanted Penn State's first total artificial heart, a pneumatic device like the Jarvik-7, in 1985. But the risk of strokes and infection facing recipients of the air-driven heart — who remain mostly bedridden in hospitals, linked by tubes to large compressors — spurred early hopes for the device.

Recipients of an electric heart would wear a battery pack and be able to walk, exercise and even work, he said.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute is financing research at Penn State, the University of Utah, the Texas Heart Institute and the Cleveland Clinic on electric Artificial Hearts.

Gerson Rosenberg, a biomedical engineer who leads Penn State's electric heart development, said the school is in the third year of its 5½-year contract and is testing the device in calves. Penn State's air-driven device now is the only FDA-approved total heart.

Rosenberg predicted the FDA will consider a totally implantable, electric heart by the late 1990s.

Pierce and Rosenberg said they doubt the decision to pull the Jarvik heart from the market will hinder research because the FDA's comments focused on Synchro Inc. of Temple, Arizona, which was producing the heart as the Synchro-7. "It's regrettable that the Synchro company didn't improve that device," Rosenberg said. "You shouldn't judge all artificial hearts by the Jarvik. There was an awful lot learned."

The Jarvik had been criticised because recipients often experienced blood clots and strokes. Some researchers claimed the problems arose because of design problems in the sacs that pump the blood; other criticism centered on the tube running to the air compressor.

The Penn State total heart has been approved only for temporary use. Other companies pro-

duce assist devices, which aid the heart's function.

At the University of Utah, where the Jarvik-7 was developed, researchers have moved on to study a new generation of heart replacement devices — known as the Utah-100, primarily for temporary use — as a bridge to human heart transplants.

Olsen said two models of the Utah-100 are being used in animal experiments. One is air-driven, requiring external heart drive boxes; the other, a hydraulically driven version, is fully contained within the recipient's chest.

The hydraulic model has generated the most enthusiasm and enjoys a five-year, \$5.6-million National Institute of Health grant. Olsen said the NIH has set a goal of having a totally implantable artificial heart by 1995.

The Utah-100 is elliptically shaped and smaller than the Synchro-7. Its design includes an internal battery and a system of electrical induction coils located under and above the skin of the chest.

The coil on the outside could be connected to a variety of power sources, including a battery pack, a transformer tapping into residential power, and possibly a device allowing the patient to draw power from a car battery, perhaps through a cigarette lighter.

The Jarvik heart first was implanted into 61-year-old dentist Barney Clark on Dec. 2, 1982, by William DeVries at the University of Utah. Clark lived for 112 days on the Jarvik-7, and died after suffering a seizure, pneumonia and kidney failure.

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### The secret life of Saeed

By Emile Habiby  
Readers International

HISTORY, WROTE MARK, in an oft-quoted phrase, first enters on the stage as tragedy, and subsequently appears as farce. Condemned to repetition, so the argument goes. History's stories lose their initial edge so that one can only engage and finally master their brutal meaning by laughing at how little humans seem to learn — or want to learn — about the past's mistakes and the impulse to repeat them.

But Israel's systematic oppression of the Palestinian people, including 40-plus years of illegal land seizures and forced emigrations, systematic beatings and planned murders, apparently defies Mark's prescription and its assumption of normalcy. "We have nothing to laugh about," proclaims a generation of Palestinian resistance literature, "and there is nothing farcical about how our successive generations continue to suffer the fate of their ancestors."

True though this may be, Emile Habiby implies in his brilliant novel *The Secret Life of Saeed*, that a literature without irony eventually rings hollow; one can only strike a heroic note or sustain a tragic mood for so long before it loses its ability to convey those very horrors it screams of so often.

## The secret life of Saeed

Written as a farce which fully recognises how humorous the incongruities of daily life in Palestine can be, Habiby's novel is paradoxically more successful in sketching the horror of that life than the ostensibly more "tragic" poetry of Mahmoud Darwish and Ghassan Khatib, two of the most acclaimed Palestinian writers.

Habiby's protagonist Saeed is hence not your typical resistance hero. Rather, as a Palestinian collaborator more concerned with survival than struggle, he bumbles his way from episode to episode, marked by craven cowardice and a stunning inability to accomplish the tasks outlined for him by his Israeli superiors. Certain that "the moon is closer to us now than are the fig trees of our departed village," he accepts apparent strokes of fate — watching the Israeli murder his father and deport his first and only love in the War of 1948 and, subsequently, watching them kill his wife and radical son in the ominous year preceding the Six Day War.

Neither surprised nor, consequently, particularly incapacitated by such happenings, Saeed is able to train his perceptive glance on the Israeli occupation without letting his emotions get in the way — usually. The exceptions make for a beautifully tight dialogue between Saeed's bracing cool wit — almost invariably exercised at the

expense of the Israeli state — and those poignant moments when the horror he experiences and the rage he represses overwhelm his pretense of distant invulnerability. The tension produced by this dialogue, always present beneath the surface, eventually precipitates the long delayed explosion through which Saeed — and by implication the long-quested Palestinian people — are forced to wake from the nightmare of history within which they sleep and which "will reach them nevertheless, generation after generation," unless they confront it.

Saeed's epiphanic moment takes place in prison, where, his longtime service to the state notwithstanding, he eventually finds himself thrown for a crime he did not commit. Having been beaten brutally, he awakens to find another tortured prisoner beside him who not only bears his name but who, he discovers, is the son of his first love, long exiled in Lebanon. When the younger Saeed, assuming that his elder counterpart is in jail like himself, for fighting the Israeli state, praises him, he restores to the older Saeed a dignity he had forgotten — literally and figuratively — a younger self — and allows him to see more clearly than ever before that the Palestinians' condition "contradicted the laws of nature and the rules of logic."

Still, old habits die hard, and while Saeed

refuses thereafter to work with the Israelis, he fails miserably in his efforts to become a hero as well. As the narrative draws toward a close one re-encounters the Saeed of the early pages — with a significant difference. For Saeed has been transformed by his experiences, and even if he will not pick up a gun, he is more than ready to rebuke the obsessive secrecy and frightened silences which had accompanied his earlier dictum to "walk on four feet... if true caution demands it."

Now, remembering his son Waleed's final scornful proclamation before he was shot, he throws that caution to the winds, deciding that "just once, I want to be careless about what I say." The result is Habiby's text, as Saeed looks back and recounts his experiences through a series of letters. If, as one of Saeed's friends argues, "many adopt literature because they lack power for anything more," Habiby makes sure that his audience nevertheless appreciates the courage in resistance literature's quiet desperation. For while words alone cannot deliver a better future, they are integral in providing inspiration for the fighters who can. Habiby's novel is so stunning because its author understands this, and is secure enough to accept the limited albeit important role he has to play in the Palestinian struggle.

By Mike Fischer

## Scientists concerned about frogs, toads dying around world

By Irwin Arieff  
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Toads and frogs are dropping like flies.

Zoologists say that a mysterious, precipitous decline in the amphibian population in some parts of the world raises troubling question about the future of humans and the environment.

"What we've got here is a global early warning system and that system is the frog," says zoologist Michael Tyler of Australia's University of Adelaide.

To date, the evidence of a huge decline in the world's amphibian population is largely anecdotal, but zoologists say it should not be ignored.

"Amphibians have a perpetually moist skin, and they live both on land and in water, so they are constantly sampling their environment in ways that we don't," says David Wake, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California at Berkeley.

"They are going to sense things before we do, and if they're going to go, there's a message there for us," says Wake, former president of the American Society of Naturalists.

If, after further study, it is determined that the threat to amphibians is only a local problem, or part of some natural cycle, then there is nothing to worry about, says Wake.

However, if instead it is determined that the problem is world-

wide, then something must be done, he said.

"Without question something is going on in some places. What we don't know is if it's general. If it is a global phenomenon, this really is an important discovery," he said.

At Wake's suggestion, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in Washington has decided to sponsor a conference on the phenomenon next month in Irvine, California.

The goal of the meeting, which is to be chaired by Wake, is to determine if there is a problem and, if so, what to do about it, said National Academy staff member Donna Gerard.

A decade ago, when he walked through the meadows of the high

Sierras — a craggy mountain range that runs along the California-Nevada border — "it used to be frog heaven," Wake recalled in a telephone interview. "They were so thick on the ground you would step on them."

"Now they are almost absent from the area," he said.

He found a similar decline in salamander and toad populations on a recent visit to Costa Rica's Monte Verde rain forest, raising suspicions that the problem was widespread.

It was then that he started a "frog log" in his computer. "When his concerns began to circulate in Zoological circles, phone calls and letters started pouring in."

Areas so far reporting dwind-

ling or disappearing amphibian populations include Denmark, Hungary, southern Ontario in Canada as well as southern California and Australia, Wake said.

Along Australia's east coast alone about 20 different amphibian species have been affected "and some have disappeared entirely," Tyler said in a telephone interview.

In Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea "a large number of species have either disappeared totally or have disappeared from a large part of their range," Tyler added.

While other amphibian habitats such as central Panama, Sarawak, northern Borneo, and the U.S. Yellowstone National Park in northwest Wyoming report no

apparent changes, even zoologists from these regions are unanimous in their support for a worldwide conference on the topic, Wake said.

Zoologists say there is no ready explanation for the apparent high mortality among amphibians. They speculate the causes could include pesticide residues, acid rain, a gradual disappearance of the ponds amphibians require to breed, and growing salinity in wetlands.

Other possible explanations include the contamination of wetlands with heavy metal toxins, higher doses of ultraviolet radiation from the sun (caused by a thinning of the atmospheric ozone layer), and even a lethal frog virus.

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**Jordan Times'**  
JORDAN MARKET PLACE



# Rafsanjani defends use of foreign credits to rebuild Iran economy

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani Friday defended his government's plan to seek \$20 billion in foreign investment and insisted this would not drag Iran into "dependence," Tehran radio reported.

The government's five-year plan to rebuild the country's war-battered economy was approved last week after months of debate. The controversy focused on Rafsanjani's ambitious plans to normalise ties with the West in order to attract foreign investment.

Radical leaders, who dominate the 270-member parliament and oppose any foreign investment, argue this will lead Iran into an endless cycle of debt.

They gave the plan the green light after a stern warning Monday by the country's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to stop frustrating Rafsanjani's efforts to resuscitate the economy.

Rafsanjani, in his Friday sermon in Tehran, rejected any no-

tion that the kind of foreign investment he was seeking would lead Iran into "dependence" on the outside world.

Speaking on the radio, monitored in Nicosia, he argued "this is not dependence. Dependence is created when gas, which is one of our resources, and we can use it to produce hundreds of products, burns on land and sea, and we do not have the means to harness it now or in the next 20 years."

Iran has signed a number of oil and gas-related agreements, primarily with the Soviet Union, which is helping in gas exploration under the Iranian side of the Caspian Sea bed. But these projects are being financed by huge exports of natural gas which will be piped to the Soviet Union starting in March.

Rafsanjani denied that the \$20 billion his government is seeking to rebuild oil-related industries battered in the Gulf war, and to construct a number of dams, amounted to a loan.

He said any foreign investment in Iran would be repaid from profits after the projects reached production stage. The eight-year war with Iraq, which halted in August 1988, tapped an annual \$10 billion of the country's resources. Many of Iran's industries are outdated or have fallen into disrepair.

Rafsanjani acknowledged that in his five-year plan "expenditure is based on earnings, but we have some needs in the petrochemical industry and to build some dams, for which we don't have enough foreign exchange."

Spending in the five-year plan is projected at \$350 billion, of which \$112 billion reportedly will be in foreign exchange.

He said that the plan envisaged an annual overall economic growth rate of eight per cent.

"At this rate, over the five-year

period we will have achieved considerable growth," Rafsanjani said.

He said that according to projections "agriculture will grow at 6.1 per cent, oil at 8.7 per cent, industry at 14.5 per cent, services at 6.7 per cent, mines at 19.5 per cent, utilities at 9.1 per cent and construction at 14.5 per cent."

Rafsanjani's projected growth rates, although ambitious, will be needed after years in which Iran saw a negative annual rate of growth of minus 2.7 per cent which has been dragging down the country's economy since the 1979 revolution that deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and installed an Islamic government.

The five-year plan was drawn up by the previous government and announced in March. But after his election in July, Rafsanjani announced major changes, adding another \$16 billion in spending.

The plan aims to triple non-oil exports in 1990-95 from \$3 billion a year to \$9 billion. At present



Hashemi Rafsanjani

Iran relies on oil and gas exports for 95 per cent of its foreign exchange.

Rafsanjani has said about \$50 billion are locked up in unfinished projects in Iran, and that many bottlenecks and shortages could be relieved if the projects were completed.

One of the major tasks of the five-year plan is to tackle inflation, officially pegged at 28 per cent but estimated to be much higher.

Rafsanjani says he aims to do this by importing more goods to relieve shortages and by boosting industrial output.

## E. Germany lifts ban on foreign investment

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany opened the floodgates to Western capital Friday by lifting a ban on foreign investment and saying it might allow some outside firms to hold majority stakes in joint venture companies.

Parliament voted overwhelmingly to change the country's rigid constitution to allow foreign participation in East German businesses of all sizes — from huge state combines to tiny private firms.

Economics Minister Christa Luft told parliament the government would issue a decree regulating joint ventures in two weeks, a temporary measure pending full legislation later in 1990 after free elections.

Earlier Finance Minister Uta Nickel said the government would consider exceptions to its planned 49 per cent ceiling on foreign shareholdings which has been criticised in West Germany as not going far enough to attract outside investment.

Luft said on West German television exceptions were likely to include small and medium-sized firms.

So far East Germany has said its new regulations would restrict foreign participation in joint ven-

tures to 49 per cent to protect East German industry from a sell-out.

East Germany has communism's strongest economy but is keen to attract foreign capital to bolster industries willing because of nutmegged factories and a dramatic westward exodus of disillusioned citizens.

Nickel told reporters after meeting West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel: "We will formulate basic rules. It must also be decided for which individual firms we will consider different regulations."

Waigel said West German firms were clamouring to invest in East Germany but would not be satisfied with a 49 per cent limit.

"All forms of participation are problematic," Waigel said. "But 49 per cent participation will definitely not be enough to maintain the atmosphere that prevails in the markets at the moment and to allow capital to flow in the right direction."

Western economic experts said other reforming East European countries had also initially tried to keep majority stakes in joint ventures but had abandoned this rather than frighten away West-

ern investors.

"Our impression has been for some time that if a joint venture is of particular interest, then the 49 per cent rule will be relaxed," said one Western diplomat.

"The word in West Germany is — don't wait for the law to be passed, get into the market now," he added.

The diplomat said West German carmaker Volkswagen A.G. already had a 50-50 deal with East Germany's IFA automobile concern and that other companies were looking to match this or do better.

The constitutional change adds a section which provides for the setting up of joint ventures with state combines, factories, institutes, cooperatives and small private firms.

Parliament agreed to leave out a clause in the amendment referring to the dominance of state ownership.

"By striking out this phrase we are building a legal umbrella allowing for the possible development of different kinds of business," Luft said.

"The notion of the dominance of the state will not change and is guaranteed elsewhere in the constitution," he noted.

Another change in the constitution ensures East German workers have a say in the way joint ventures are run.

East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow also attended the finance ministers' meeting, squeezed into a break in East Germany's parliament session, but did not brief reporters.

## Suheimat reveals budget for Greater Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Greater Amman Municipality's current 1990 fiscal budget amounts to JD 40,112,240 which includes JD 36,921,560 for expected revenues leaving a JD 3,190,680 deficit.

The figures were announced last week by Amman Mayor Ali Suheimat who said that the municipality would resort to an improvement in methods to collect dues and reduce and rationalise expenditure in a bid to reduce the margin of the deficit.

At present, the municipal council is introducing measures to deal with a tax on real estate, specially buildings, and a draft law has been referred to the government for further study.

Suheimat noted. In a bid to reduce the deficit, the council has decided to cancel earlier decisions to appropriate a number of lands and real estates, the mayor added.

"Indeed the council is now involved in a study on all earlier decisions on land appropriation and also on better and more profitable means of investments to ensure revenues for the municipality," Suheimat noted.

The mayor announced that the decision has now been taken for the purchase of 20 garbage processing trucks at the total cost of JD 1,381,856 to help to promote the cleanliness campaigns in and around Amman.

## Official stresses Jordan's international trade accords

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's economic and trade agreements with Arab and foreign nations have contributed to a rise in national exports and an increase in providing Arab countries with skilled workers participating in their national development endeavours, according to Assem Hindawi, director of economic development department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

"Thanks to these agreements, Jordan has been able to increase the volume of its national exports of agricultural and industrial products mainly to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria," Hindawi said in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Jordan, he said, has accords with Egypt, Iraq, North and South Yemen, Syria, Lebanon,

Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Tunisia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Djibouti which all employ Jordanian workers in industry, health, education, construction and other fields.

He said that the Kingdom has other agreements with another 27 foreign nations in the five continents which help the country export its national products.

"Jordan and these nations have formed special committees to follow up the implementation of agreements," Hindawi added.

He said that the Kingdom is closely cooperating with a number of pan-Arab and Arab League organisations and numerous world organisations to promote its national development and benefit from international expertise in various domains.

These organisations include among others: The European Community, the Group of 77, the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Council of Arab Economic Unity, the Arab Common Market and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD.

## Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Jan. 6, '90 and ending Wednesday Jan. 10, '90. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking and financial institutions</b>					
Industrial Development Bank	17547	56533	2.700	3.310	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	155636	273857	1.520	1.810	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	630	1365	2.060	2.100	1.000
Housing Bank	3200	9960	3.100	3.350	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	500	13875	27.000	27.750	5.000
Cairo Amman Bank	4945	75842	14.200	15.250	5.000
Bank of Jordan	12690	2963282	225.000	228.000	10.000
Arab Bank	28524	74723	2.560	2.670	1.000
Jordan National Bank	2230	7608	3.500	3.450	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	2230	7608	3.500	3.450	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	204179	441638	2.030	2.140	1.000
National Financial Securities	14160	36139	2.550	2.560	1.000
National Finance Corporation (Jordan)	661	606	1.000	0.980	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	661	606	1.000	0.980	1.000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	661	606	1.000	0.980	1.000
<b>Insurance and reinsurance</b>					
Middle East Insurance	51750	105371	1.950	2.110	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	13600	33718	2.500	2.520	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelpia Insurance	700	1110	1.530	1.600	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	100	173	1.730	1.730	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahilya Insurance	300	510	1.710	1.700	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Eagle Insurance	133325	198768	1.350	1.560	1.000
<b>Services and industries</b>					
General Investments	250	460	1.750	1.840	1.000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	9909	10284	1.060	1.010	1.000
Danco for Housing and Investment	504433	457002	0.910	0.900	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqroo)	324715	186672	0.610	0.550	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	60400	27268	0.960	0.950	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	—	—	—	—	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	14998	22211	1.480	1.470	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	—	—	—	—	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	77250	121986	1.620	1.560	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	12900	8424	0.660	0.620	1.000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	36450	96852	2.650	2.680	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	17100	69900	4.050	4.000	1.000
Jordan Press Kodak	2000	4100	2.000	2.050	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	115501	234108	2.020	1.950	1.000
Jordan Dairy	7447	30808	5.250	5.130	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	185799	558663	2.950	3.020	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	13388	61585	4.600	4.600	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	25418	68488	2.800	2.900	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intai)	2200	16471	6.090	7.500	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	325700	514246	1.860	1.820	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	3000	10500	3.600	3.450	1.000
Aladdin Industries	62278	179320	2.860	2.860	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	6679	22018	3.300	3.300	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	11150	39032	3.640	3.450	1.000
Jordan Chemicals	148296	290423	1.970	1.900	1.000
Chemical Industries and Match (CIMCO)	13294	56777	4.150	4.380	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	1500	4319	2.930	2.860	1.000
National Steel Industries	17900	95499	5.550	5.350	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Mining	1331	10915	8.240	8.200	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	9100	9702	1.100	1.050	1.000
National Industries	17900	10579	0.690	0.570	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	738459	622930	0.830	0.870	1.000
Arab Investment and International Trade	1700	6284	3.700	3.670	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	11270	9843	0.790	0.900	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	5000	17349	3.520	3.390	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	350	981	2.560	2.820	1.000
Rafid Industrial for Plastic Bags	2964	24136	7.940	8.430	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	51673	171434	3.320	3.360	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	11450	18729	1.700	1.530	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	1668	3920	2.350	2.350	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	106500	268421	2.510	2.540	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	90450	512868	5.690	4.500	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	90250	262750	2.940	2.910	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	72830	111123	2.880	2.880	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	90309	1157805	1.210	1.300	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	430470	711643	1.640	1.600	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	165563	120180	0.730	0.730	1.000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	21378	22221	0.900	1.010	1.000
National Quarry	—	—	—	—	1.000
Grand total	5,392,067	11,661,899			

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

### Yemens to merge airlines

SANAA (R) — North and South Yemen, pursuing unification moves, plan to merge their airlines to form a combined fleet of 12 planes, a North Yemeni newspaper said Friday. The weekly 26 September said Sanaa and Aden will soon start "taking the necessary steps for the merger of Yemen Airways of the north with Yamda, the South Yemeni airline." Yemen Airways has seven planes. Its average annual gross profit is around 40 million riyals (\$4 million). Since 1978 it has been a joint-stock company with Saudi Arabia holding 49 per cent of the shares.

### Japan buys more oil from M.E.

TOKYO (R) — The Middle East accounted for 76.3 per cent of Japan's crude oil imports in November, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) reported. Japan's overall crude imports in November inched up to 3.93 million barrels per day (b/d) from 3.74 million b/d in October, and were up sharply from 3.42 million b/d a year earlier, the ministry said. The year-on-year rise stemmed from brisk refined products demand and rising imports for processing deals, MITI said. OPEC crude imports accounted for 81.4 per cent of the total, compared with 75.4 per cent in October. November crude imports from the Middle East rose to 3.00 million b/d from 2.74 million b/d in October, accounting for 76.3 per cent of the total, compared with 73.3 per cent in October, the MITI figures show.

## Swissair, Singapore Airlines announce close cooperation

ZURICH (J.T.) — Swissair and Singapore Airlines are to embark on close and extensive cooperation in a number of fields. With common partner Delta Air Lines of the USA, the accord provides the third link in a quality alliance that now extends all around the globe.

The Swissair-Singapore Airlines cooperation calls for coordination of schedules between Switzerland and Singapore and neighbouring regions beyond. Close cooperation is also planned in the marketing field, particularly in the service operations conducted by the two carriers. Joint use of facilities is a further aim.

Swissair serves 110 destinations in 68 countries. Singapore Airlines' route network extends to 57 points in 37 countries. Swissair operates a fleet of 55 aircraft; Singapore has 39, most of them widebodies. Swissair carried a total of 8.1 million passengers and 267,000 tonnes of cargo in 1988; by comparison, in the 1988/89 financial year, Singapore Airlines transported 6.2 million passengers and 240,000 tonnes of cargo.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, January 13, 1989  
Central Bank official rates

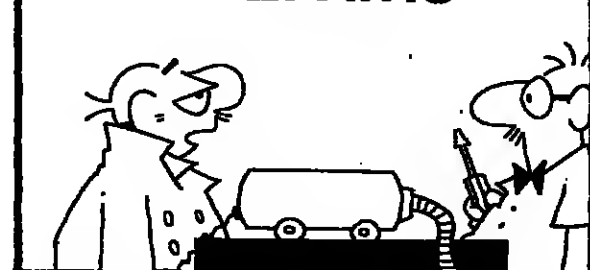
	Buy	Sell	French franc	113.1	114.2
U.S. dollar	650.0	656.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	445.8	450.3
Pound Sterling	1078.9	1089.7	Dutch guilder	341.6	345.0
Deutsche mark	385.3	389.4	Swedish crown	106.1	107.2
Swiss franc	434.1	438.4	Italian lira (for 100)	51.7	52.2
			Belgian franc (for 10)	104.8	106.6

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

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## REPAIRS



"I tried to vacuum the snow off my sidewalk."

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



## Liverpool draws, surrenders two-point lead

LONDON (R) — Liverpool had their lead at the top of the English first division narrowed to goal difference on Saturday as strugglers Luton held them to a 2-2 draw at Anfield after threatening one of the upsets of the season.

Two goals within two minutes from Kingley Black and Dabbs, but Kurt Nogan put Luton 2-1 up and just 16 minutes away from their first ever win at Liverpool and their first away triumph for over a year.

But Scottish international Steve Nicol equalised in the 76th minute to deny Luton's new manager Jim Ryan a remarkable result in his first match in charge.

Aston Villa moved level on 43 points with Liverpool following a 2-0 win at bottom club Charlton — their 12th victory in 15 league games. Villa also have a game in hand over the leaders.

But Arsenal and Southampton, third and fourth respectively, lost

ground. Arsenal crashed 1-0 at London neighbours Wimbledon in a draw contest in which defender Nigel Winterburn was carried off on a stretcher late in the second half.

Newcomer Michael Bennett scored the goal minutes from time to leave the champions four points behind the leading pair.

Southampton, held to a 2-2 draw at home by improving Everton, remain eight points adrift of the leaders.

Veteran defender Russell Osman scored twice as Southampton's first against Everton continued — they have not beaten the Liverpool side in 12 meetings over the last six years.

Unchanged for the sixth successive match and beaten only once in their last 10 outings, Southampton were expected to prove too sharp for their mid-table visitors.

They had scored more goals in

their last three games than Everton had in their previous 13 and when Osman opened the scoring with a left foot drive in the 14th minute the match looked set to go to form.

But former Manchester United midfielder Norman Whiteside struck a minute either side of halftime to put the visitors ahead and Osman was left to earn a point for his side with his second goal 16 minutes from time.

When England winger John Barnes shot Liverpool ahead against Luton after 32 minutes,

Ryan's pre-match promise that his side would not be overawed at Anfield and would entertain began to look a little empty.

Bit Luton's defence, which had conceded 30 goals in their previous 12 games, worked hard throughout to contain Barnes and Welsh marksmen Ian Rush and Black's 72nd minute equaliser clearly boosted his team mates.

Nogan's shock goal two minutes later put Luton in sight of their first win since November. But Nicol replied with his fifth of the season to stretch his side's unbeaten run to 10 games.

## U.A.E. sacks Brazilian coach, hires Pole

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Mario Zagalo, the Brazilian coach who steered the United Arab Emirates' soccer squad to their first World Cup finals, was abruptly sacked by the Gulf state's football association Saturday, officials reported.

Zagalo, 53, who recently returned from a Christmas vacation in Brazil, was officially informed of the decision at a meeting with the association.

Zagalo, whose two-year contract was scheduled to expire in June, will be replaced by Bernard Blaut, Poland's former

assistant national coach who currently is head coach with the Sharjah club in the UAE first division.

"This is a surprise to me. Naturally I'm upset about it," Zagalo told the Associated Press after the meeting.

"I was officially informed of this sudden decision this morning at a meeting with the football association, although I'd read about it in today's papers. It was a shock," he said.

Zagalo was hailed as a hero in

the Emirates only a few months ago after the national team, under his tutelage, won through to the World Cup finals in Italy to be held this summer.

The United Arab Emirates Football Association, or UAEFA, was expected to formally announce Zagalo's sacking later Saturday, said association sources, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The reason for Zagalo's dismissal was not immediately known. But former U.A.E. captain Ahmed Eissa, now a leading sports official, told the AP: "The association has decided that it is in the best interests of the game and I'm sure that it would not affect the morale of the players."

Association sources noted that UAEFA was not happy with Zagalo taking a vacation in December while the national team was being groomed for the Gulf Cup in Kuwait next month and the World Cup finals.

There were also unconfirmed reports that Zagalo was unhappy with payments he received after guiding the national team to second place in the Asian group final qualifying stage in Singapore, clinching its place in the World Cup finals.

The U.A.E. is grouped with West Germany, Yugoslavia and Colombia in Group D in the finals that start in June.

The news media in Dubai, the bustling port city where Zagalo lives, had speculated about his dismissal earlier in the day.

Blaut told reporters Friday night, when speculation that Zagalo was on the way out began, that he had not been officially informed of any decision.

Zagalo declined to give details of his meeting with UAEFA. But he said he will leave in about two weeks after settling matters related to his contract and clearing up his personal affairs.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JANUARY 14, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day and evening to state your ideas and points of view to others and especially those that have considerable scope to them for you now can make headway and progress.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Take your family to interesting outside places of recreation. You can happily be engaged with attachment in joint projects.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Take some thoughtful presents now to members of your family. Several persons you both like will entertain you and your loved one.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You can learn a great deal by inviting intelligent persons into your home. Get your surroundings more as your attachment would like them to be.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Join to see relatives and friends, as this will be productive of beneficial results. Being too direct with your attachment could cause problems.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) A good day to go Dutch treat with as many friends as possible. You want to get away for a change from your home, so do so now.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You can now get the desired help you've been striving for from your family. Carry through with an initiated hobby at your residence.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Don't let an overly anxious

## League fines Maradona

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona was fined 10 million lire (\$7,700) by the disciplinary commission of the Italian league for alleging that World Cup draws had been fixed.

The soccer tribunal, which made public Maradona's punishment Friday night, stressed that the Latin American player had "ridiculed" World Cup organizers by claiming that pairings of the six groups had been decided prior to the official draw in Rome last Dec. 9.

Maradona, the captain of major league Napoli and of the Argentine national team, did not immediately comment on the decision of the Italian commission, which has landed a total of 50

million lire (\$38,500) in fines on the talkative Latin American star so far this season.

However, club sources indicated that Napoli was glad that the tribunal, which judged Maradona because he plays with an Italian team, did not resort to the most severe punishment — the player's disqualification for one or more games from the Italian championship.

The International Soccer Federation (FIFA), which had originally threatened to ban Maradona from this year's World Cup following his allegations, recently said it did not plan to take any disciplinary action against the Argentine forward.

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## New South Wales Open:

## Noah, Steeb in final

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Re-vitalised Yannick Noah combined subtlety and power Saturday to defeat defending champion Aaron Krickstein of the United States and advance to the final of the \$400,000 New South Wales Open tennis championship.

The flamboyant Frenchman, seeded eighth, beat third seeded Krickstein 6-4, 7-5 in an engrossing 93-minute struggle at White City.

He will meet West German left-hander Carl-Uwe Steeb in Sunday's final following seventh-seeded Steeb's impressive 6-3, 6-2 semifinal victory over former world number one Mats Wilander of Sweden.

Steeb, who stunned reigning U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion Boris Becker in the quarterfinals, was too consistent from the baseline for fifth seeded Wilander.

He raced to a 3-0 lead in the first set and Wilander never really got into the match.

Steeb was far steadier from the backcourt and repeatedly passed Wilander when the Swede advanced to the net.

"I had to be steady from the baseline today, and I didn't make too many mistakes," Steeb said. "I've learned that I can play like a top 10 player, now it's up to me to get there."

Steeb currently is ranked 16th. Noah, his career rejuvenated by the coaching from former U.S. Davis Cup captain Dennis Ralston, was given a standing ovation by the packed centre court crowd after his thrilling battle with hard-slugging Krickstein.

Krickstein added variety to his usual game, which is based on a powerful forehand, but still was unable to march Noah, who was a top five player from 1982 to 1988. He has since slipped to 21st on the Association of Tennis Professionals computer.

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**NORTH**  
♠ Q J 7  
♥ Q 6 2  
♦ A Q J 10 7 6  
♣ 5 3

**WEST** ♠ 9 8 4 3

♥ Q 10 5

♦ 4 2

♣ 9 7 6 2

Declarer's contract is 3NT. He has opened one club and then jumped to two no trump. North did not think the hand would stretch to slam, and settled for the no-trump game. Little did he realize even that might be too high!

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## THE Daily Crossword by Sidney L. Robinson

**ACROSS**

- Soft drink
- Atoll
- Headstrong
- Decorate
- Rose's love
- My Kart
- Musical gr.
- Young horse
- Makes like
- None
- Nonsense
- Times of note
- Wheel for fitting
- Maple leaf
- country
- Kind of road
- Fanned office
- Angry look
- Viral disease
- Small shops
- Farm animal
- Literary device
- Diminish
- Inset
- Wine
- cousin
- NY city
- Food fish
- Loco
- Restless
- author
- Fanned
- Like some ties
- Constructed
- chessman
- roughly
- Capri e.g.
- "You can't"
- (Train)
- Andes beast
- do-well
- Parus
- "I smell"

**DOWN**

- Ted
- Fragrance
- Fall
- and orbits
- Director Frank
- Roads
- Bussing items
- Medicine
- Get more gas
- Island
- Phase
- "Roots"
- author
- Fanned
- Says
- Constructed
- Handed
- roughly
- Africa
- Decide
- frankly
- Accuse
- Pie - mode
- Comic Jay
- 30 Detect
- Swedia
- Col. club
- Consumer
- Dunderhead
- Cart
- Poison
- Quick look
- Chicken
- seed
- Flop car
- Pooped
- U. S. lettered
- Fake ruby
- Dark brown
- Silver
- Dampened
- Part
- Brine
- Age Room
- Bombard
- Gold goal
- Krazy

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Lithuanians protest in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, on the eve of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit.

## Prosecution puts off plan to shift Noriega to new cell

MIAMI (Agencies) — Prosecutors agreed Friday during closed-door court hearing to hold off on plans to move deposed Panamanian strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega from his courthouse jail cell, a U.S. police official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Noriega was not expected to be transferred "anytime in the immediate future" after his lawyers objected to the government's bid to move him.

The plan had called for Noriega to be taken almost immediately to a more secure location. Government officials, concerned his life could be threatened by Colombian cocaine smugglers who believe he may inform on them, contend the courthouse cell is not secure enough.

Noriega's lawyers have consistently said they would strongly oppose any effort to move him, claiming they want him nearby so they can help him prepare his defense against a 1988 drug indictment.

In his first public statement on the matter, U.S. District Judge William Hoever told reporters Noriega's trial could begin in as little as seven or eight months.

Noriega, once Panama's "maximum leader," has been held in a cramped underground cell called the "submarine" since his arrival in Miami last Thursday after surrendering to U.S. troops in Panama.

His capture was one of the main objectives of the U.S. invasion launched Dec. 20.

U.S. authorities may eventually renew their effort to move Noriega and reserve the right to transfer him if his security is threatened.

Noriega is awaiting trial on a 1988 indictment that charges him with shielding major Colombian cocaine traffickers, helping them ship drugs to the United States and pocketing \$4.6 million in bribes.

A U.S. television network reported Friday that Noriega may have access to millions of dollars even as awaits trial for drug offenses in the United States.

NBC news said Noriega has

access to what could be millions of dollars in an unfrozen bank account at the Deutsche Sudamerikanische bank in Hamburg, West Germany.

While it quoted bank officials as saying that the bank had no account in Noriega's name, NBC said U.S. records show the former general has a numbered account at the German bank.

NBC also said that up to \$1 million of the funds in the account could have been deposited by the U.S. military several years ago, when Noriega served as an informant for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Several banks in France and Switzerland holding as much as \$25 million for Noriega have already frozen his accounts, NBC said.

Noriega's personal fortune has been estimated at more than \$200 million, NBC said.

A top congress man said Friday that the U.S. invasion of Panama was a military success, but this was partly due to luck the United States could not depend on in any similar operation in the future.

House of Representatives Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin said U.S. forces were lucky that Panamanian soldiers did not take Americans in Panama hostage and threaten to kill one an hour.

He said the U.S. invasion force was also lucky that Noriega chose not to fight.

"Noriega folded," the Wisconsin Democrat said at a press conference.

He said there was evidence that Noriega's Panama Defence Force soldiers hid out after the invasion, awaiting Noriega's orders on where and how to fight, but the orders never came.

When it became clear Noriega would issue no order to fight, Aspin said, the Panamanian soldiers "didn't take hostages. Why didn't they? That is a mystery to me."

He said some of the Panamanian soldiers had been involved in brutal tortures in the past, so he was surprised none of them had

seized Americans and threatened to kill one an hour until they got money and planes to escape from Panama.

"If you had five or six of those situations you would have had a different story here," he said.

Aspin said U.S. forces were also lucky in being able to scout Panamanian targets before the invasion because of the presence of U.S. bases under the Panama Canal treaties, and were able to fly in thousands of troops to the U.S. Howard air force base before the Christmas week invasion.

Aspin rated the U.S. invasion a first-grade military success, but said it was less successful politically. He said the swearing in of President Guillermo Endara at a U.S. base made Endara look like a U.S. puppet.

Panamanian Attorney General Ogeilio Cruz has brought charges against 50 members of the regime of Noriega, the independent La Prensa newspaper reported Friday.

The charges range from illicit use of government funds to involvement in cover-ups and those charged include Noriega's wife, Felicidad, who has taken refuge in the Cuban ambassador's residence, and former President Manuel Solis Palma, the newspaper said.

An aide to Cruz told Reuters Friday she did not know if charges had yet been brought against Benjamin Colombaro, head of the feared civilian Dignity Battalion militias formed and armed by Noriega last year.

Colombaro, 33, turned himself in to U.S. forces Wednesday and was being held at Fort Clayton with Noriega's backers whose number the Red Cross has estimated at 65.

Many of the detainees are being held without formal charges, U.S. sources said, while prosecutors study each case.

U.S. sources said Friday that almost all of Noriega's top officers were either in detention or hiding in foreign embassies in Panama City.

## 4 IRA suspects arrested after bid to buy Stinger

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida (Agencies) — four people believed to be members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) have been arrested while attempting to purchase a heat-seeking anti-aircraft missile and other weapons, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has announced.

The four arrested Friday are believed to be members of the provisional faction of the IRA and were trying to gather weapons for terrorist activities outside the United States, said William Gavin, who heads the FBI in southern Florida.

"They made it very clear they were interested in procuring Stinger missiles and high explosives — and they intended to ship them out of the country," Gavin said at a news conference.

One of the men, Seamus Moley, allegedly paid undercover agents \$500,000 for the U.S.-made Stinger, a shoulder-carried, heat-seeking missile that has been used by rebels in Afghanistan and Nicaragua to attack helicopter gunships.

"One would have to believe if they had such an interest in pro-

curing this type of weaponry, they planned a terrorist act and probably against an aircraft," said Robert Creighton, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which conducted the two-month investigation with the FBI.

The men, three Irish citizens and a Canadian, were identified as members of the IRA, which is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Creighton said the undercover agents posed as people selling weapons they had stolen from the military. "They led us to believe they were involved in the procurement of weapons before (for the IRA)," he said.

One of the suspects, Joseph Martin McColgan, 39, of Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland, proclaimed his innocence as the four were paraded in handcuffs before television cameras Friday night.

"I'm just a poor Irishman here on holiday and was trapped by certain people," he said. "Certain people offered to sell me a piece of equipment for the Irish

republican struggle." Asked if he belonged to the IRA, Moley said: "Not at all. Don't be silly."

The other two Irish suspects were identified as Kevin Joseph McKinley, 33, of Riviera Beach, Florida, and Moley, 30, also of Riviera Beach. The Canadian suspect is Sean John McCann, 34, also a resident of Riviera Beach.

They were charged with conspiracy, possession of a destructive device, violations of arms export regulations and the U.S. neutrality law. If convicted, they could each face up to 25 years in prison and \$750,000 in fines.

The four were to appear before a U.S. magistrate in West Palm beach Tuesday afternoon.

In November 1986, five men were given prison sentences ranging from six to 18 months in Boston in a plot to buy arms, including a surface-to-air missile, for the IRA.

The men were arrested in May 1986 when they attempted to buy the missile, 100 M-16 automatic rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition from undercover FBI agents.

## Gorbachev warns Lithuanians against 'national wilderness'

VILNIUS (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev made an impassioned appeal to Lithuanians Saturday to ease back on their drive for total independence, telling them they were rushing towards a "nationalist wilderness."

"We need to think it over a thousand times before we embark on an independent drift with no compass, no map and no fuel," he told the Baltic republic's top Communists, themselves split between separatists and Moscow loyalists.

But there seemed little doubt that despite the combination of promise, cajoling and warnings of possible disaster he has used during three days in Lithuania, the vast majority of local people remained determined to push for secession.

The mood was summed up for Gorbachev at the meeting in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, by a Russian, Vasily Yemelyanov, editor-in-chief of the republic's

Russian-language party newspaper Sovetskaya Litva.

"The majority of the population of Lithuania is ready to sacrifice material well-being for the sake of the possibility of spiritual self-determination and political freedoms," he told the Kremlin chief.

Algirdas Brazauskas, "gentle giant" leader of the Lithuanian Communist Party, declared that despite Gorbachev's reform drive the Soviet party had changed little. "Time waits for no one, as life changes almost daily in our country," he said.

Under his leadership the Lithuanian party has broken with Moscow. A party congress voted by an overwhelming majority last month to declare the party a totally independent body.

Gorbachev ended his three-day visit to the once independent republic with joint talks with both the breakaway party, whose program includes a "sovereign" Lithuania, and with

a loyalist rump.

The meeting, broadcast live on Lithuanian television, followed a cool response from powerful separatist forces. They have spurned Gorbachev's offer of a proposed law spelling out terms for orderly secession as "propaganda" and "a cheap lie."

Gorbachev, who is both chief of state and head of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), fared little better at the hands of his Lithuanian comrades.

Sitting in a semi-circle facing a hall of several hundred people, Gorbachev heard his party dismissed as too hidebound to compete — for votes or influence — in the whirlwind of modern Lithuanian politics.

Yemelyanov said Lithuanian communists had been forced into the split by Moscow's inability or unwillingness to accept rapid change.

"Not only was Stalinism discredited but the people completely

lost faith in the CPSU. It is a pity that our party has split but we simply could wait no longer," said Yemelyanov.

Reflecting the calm but determined mood of the gathering, he said there could be no going back on last month's decision.

"I believe annulling the decision would be the death of the Communist Party of Lithuania," Yemelyanov told Gorbachev, who took copious notes and occasionally gestured in response.

"Realities here are such that people have said, 'enough. We want to be Europeans'."

The Lithuanians' unprecedented break with Moscow, approved last month by an overwhelming majority of party leaders, was in response to fears of being swamped in upcoming elections by the powerful, pro-independence Sajudis movement.

And Yemelyanov conceded the party had lost its place as the leading light in Lithuanian society.

## C8 LUMN

### Botticelli masterpiece back on show

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — "The Coronation of the Virgin," a masterpiece by the 15th century Italian artist Botticelli, has gone back on show in Florence 50 years after it was removed for restoration. The work, painted by Botticelli between 1488 and 1490, was re-exhibited Thursday for the first time since 1940 in a chapel of the city's Uffizi museum. Lengthy restoration was needed after the surface of plaster and glue on which Botticelli painted started to disintegrate, restorers said.

### Man travels across world to see cousin dead

WELLINGTON (R) — Albin Birch left London on the trip of a lifetime to find a New Zealand cousin he had not seen for 30 years — but instead found a month-old corpse. Albin's 82-year-old cousin Bennett Birch lived as a recluse 19,000 kilometres away in New Zealand's sub-tropical far north. But Albin discovered him dead when he arrived at his home Thursday in the remote settlement of Takeke.

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MM	ML	MAX	Weather
AMSTERDAM	01	34	05	41 Cloudy
ATHENS	03	37	15	55 Clear
BANGKOK	13	35	17	63 Cloudy
BANGKOK	25	77	33	91 Clear
Buenos Aires	22	72	35	95 Cloudy
Cairo	07	45	17	63 Cloudy
CHICAGO	05	23	01	30 Clear
COPENHAGEN	04	28	05	43 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	X	X	X	X
GENEVA	02	28	00	32 Clear
HONG KONG	17	63	18	64 Cloudy
STANBUL	01	34	09	48 Clear
LONDON	04	39	08	46 Clear
LOS ANGELES	13	55	20	68 Cloudy
MADRID	00	32	12	54 Clear
MECCA	18	64	28	82 Cloudy
MONTREAL	01	30	01	30 Cloudy
MOSCOW	X	X	X	X
NEW DELHI	09	48	26	78 Clear
NEW YORK	01	33	05	41 Clear
PARIS	00	32	04	39 Clear
ROME	01	30	08	46 Clear
SYDNEY	21	70	27	81 Cloudy
TOKYO	05	41	10	50 Cloudy
VIENNA	X	X	X	X

X indicates missing information

## Senior Albanian official rejects reports of unrest

VIENNA (Agencies) — A leading member of the Albanian Communist Party has dismissed as Yugoslav-inspired slanders reports of a crackdown in his country to deter unrest.

Western and East Bloc diplomats in the capital Tirana said that life there appeared calm and normal with no signs of increased security measures.

Foto Cami, secretary of the Albanian party's central committee, told Tirana Radio and television Friday that Serbian nationalists in Yugoslavia were spreading the rumours to distract world attention from the plight of ethnic Albanians there.

"How do I assess them. I cannot find a better word than 'slanders,'" Foto told an interviewer according to the official Albanian ATA news agency monitored in Vienna.

"The aim is clear. They wish that what has occurred in the countries of the East happen in Albania too," he said referring to the wave of popular unrest that has broken the Communist grip

on power in Eastern Europe. He said such rumours would only increase the resolve of the Albanian people: "They urge us to raise higher the vigilance to safeguard our freedom, independence and sovereignty."

Reports from Belgrade and Athens have spoken of a harsh crackdown deter unrest in Albania, the last outpost of Stalinist communism in Europe.

The Belgrade newspaper Politika reported Thursday that a state of emergency had been declared in the northern town of Shkoder and security had been stepped up around official residences in Tirana.

The Yugoslav national news agency Tanjug said Friday Albania had imposed security measures it said amounted to a state of emergency. But in later reports it quoted travellers from Albania as saying there were no visible signs of any emergency.

One diplomat, contacted in Tirana by telephone from Vienna, said a Western ambassador had visited Shkoder and found

life there to be continuing as normal. Other diplomats there said there were no signs of increased security in the capital.

Milav Milic, a reporter for Belgrade television from Yugoslavia's Kosovo province, which borders Albania, told the Associated Press that "frequent sound of firearms" was heard Friday from the direction of Albania.

Tanjug and Belgrade television said "something is apparently happening" in Albania, and that rare travellers from that country report "brutal" measures against dissent there.

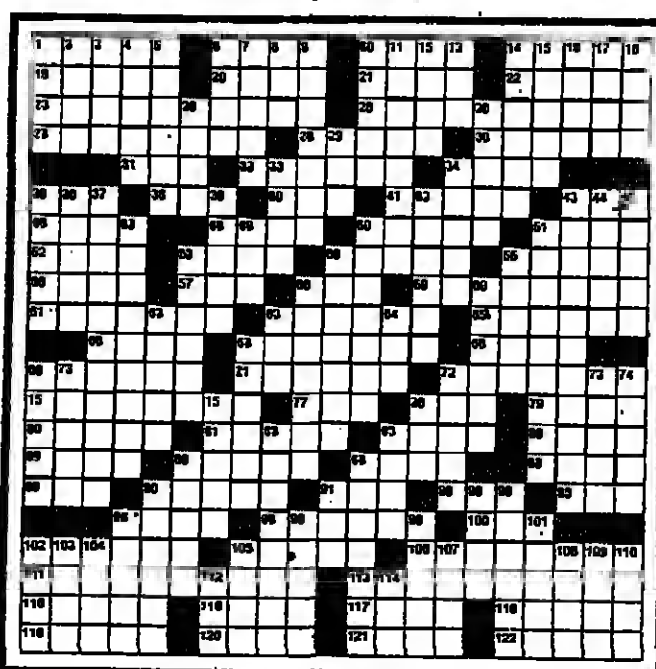
"Albanian authorities in an effort to prevent unrest against the regime have imposed extremely strict control measures in the country," Tanjug said.

It said the security measures "can be termed a state of emergency," but did not say when the measures were allegedly imposed.

Tanjug gave no sources for its information, but Belgrade Television said its information came from unconfirmed reports from diplomats and travellers.

## THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Etkenson



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. People say they can forecast winter weather by the stripes of the woolly bear caterpillar.
2. Greek young chef severely placed at a cookbook, then whipped up a gourmet feast for his critics without it.
3. Sweet and buoyant viola strings of a gypsy vespeneed weep for us all.
4. Tired chicken king hires egghead worker to help clean new coops.

CRYPTOGRAMS

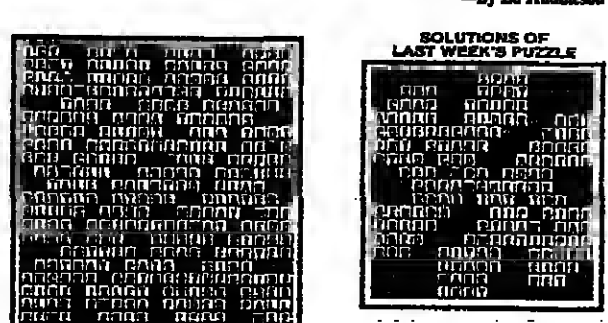
L TO GO ILHSIOUR WALI MIAMIYI WGR "PA  
WALINKTOS. I BIO TZ TNY W CHAOS"  
MAYTNTUTGOW. T ZTOP. HINWGUI "IDIO"  
CTNK "IWMITGYR". —By Len Sherry

2. LUDCAEL SHST OPRATTABE SKOS KY  
TSOUSYF SKEASADE KOP KAR CATKAE  
KY KOPESH —By Barbara J. Rugg

3. BPOISRLTF YUEFRIN ETMRIN SXAYO PAIN  
SB EAGGOMERUFY FOODY SXO  
MOLMRNOMUSAM XYOPBOY EPOUIOR ALL. —By Lois H. Jones

4. BALK MLOURKL MANY PK BUI SAAY ANY  
SLOW FOLK FORM FORMKL ORWPALK. —By Ed Haddleton

SOLUTIONS OF  
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



Handwritten signature: "John in 1989"